the Indian Railways and handed over to the Government Railway Police. Further, escort parties of Railway Protection Force have accepted 2,094 FIRs from victim passengers and forwarded to Government Railway Police for expeditious registration of offences and enquiry.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Work plan agreement with Israel

*337. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel have signed a three-year work plan for cooperation in the field of agriculture;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement;

(c) whether the work plan focuses on development of agri-business projects, colaborative research and development, academic and farmer-level exchanges and cooperation in gene bank resources;

(d) whether under the agreement, Israel shall transfer technologies and techniques relating to post-harvest management and value addition for fruits, vegetables and dairy products; and

(e) if so, to what extent it would be helpful to India?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Work Plan was signed on 10th May, 2006 between Government of India and the Government of Israel for cooperation in the field of agriculture for the year's, 2006-08. The Work Plan, *inter alia,* provides for collaboration in research in fertigation and soil-less culture for growing high value horticulture crops, development of techniques and facilities in energy efficient green house structures for semi-arid tropical climates, studies in recycling of waste water for irrigation, input delivery and extension service system, post harvest management and value addition for fruits, vegetables and dairy products, development of standards and processes for good agricultural practices and dairy development through genetic improvement.

The Work Plan also provides for training facilities for scientists and technical personnel, visits by farmers and farmers; organizations to familiarize with agronomic practices and exchange of genetic material in the field of agriculture.

(e) Israel has made impressive progress in agriculture and has acquire leadership, particularly in the field of water management and conservation, creating infrastructure for small farms; desert condition farming; precision and protected farming; post harvest management and value addition for vegetables, fruits and dairy products. Cooperation with Israel in the field of agriculture, therefore, will be useful particularly for States having agro-climatic conditions akin to Israel and for adopting frontier technology in production and post harvest management of fruits, vegetables and dairy products.

Funds for controlling Chikungunya disease

*338. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WFLFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 9.7 lakh suspected cases of Chikungunya were reported from many States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the States have demanded more funds to check the disease; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) The Government of India is aware that there are large number of suspected cases of Chikungunya reported from seven States as given below: